

P.O. Box 3043 Auburn, Ca 95604 March 2, 2009

Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region 11020 Sun Center Dr. #200 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Dear Board Members:

Most experts agree that water quality and supply is fast becoming a major issue, especially in California. We on the Summit are well aware that a good portion of California's water supply begins it's journey on Donner Summit, and flows through thousands of taps along the way. Therefore, I question the rationale behind allowing such lax standards and unproven dilution equations at the top of a watershed.

At this time, Nevada and Placer Counties, with citizen support, are discussing revitalization for the area. These discussions include plans to install berms, retention ponds, and a drainage system to protect the South Yuba River from urban runoff and to protect Van Norden meadow, a powerful natural filter.

At the same time, the South Yuba Citizens League has initiated its Protect Yuba Headwaters campaign to raise awareness of the South Yuba's water quality issues. Since Donner Summit PUD is in these headwaters, the quality of its outfall is vital to the determination of water quality and aquatic life viability in the South Yuba.

The goal of these various community efforts is to protect and improve local water quality. It seems that the interim limits and the dilution credits based on extrapolation are at odds with the County, citizen and South Yuba River Citizens League goals.

In order for the local PUD to support the existing efforts to protect and improve the South Yuba water quality, it is requested that DSPUD conduct a flow study at the point of outfall in order to justify the dilution credits and that no dilution credits be granted until that study is completed. Continued monitoring and reporting river flows would hopefully allow for the Water Board to adjust dilution credits if water flow was to decrease.

Additionally, the high interim limits for effluent constituents would be regarded as gross pollution in any other situation. It is requested that these limits not be increased above current non-polluting standards.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope that the Water Quality Control Board will uphold the local efforts to protect and improve area water quality.

Very truly yours,

Linda Waddle



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